

based on a subpart of subchapter Q of this chapter, the approval series corresponds to the number of the subpart. A listing of current and formerly approved equipment and materials may be found on the Internet at: <http://cgmix.uscg.mil/equipment>. Each OCMI may be contacted for information concerning approved equipment.

(b) *Approved* means approved under subchapter Q of this chapter.

(c) *Use* means operate, navigate, or employ.

§ 25.25-5 Life preservers and other lifesaving equipment required.

(a) No person may operate a vessel to which this subpart applies unless it meets the requirements of this subpart.

(b) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire, less than 40 feet in length must have at least one life preserver (Type I PFD), buoyant vest (Type II PFD), or marine buoyant device intended to be worn (Type III PFD), approved under subchapter Q of a suitable size for each person on board. Kapok and fibrous glass life preservers that do not have plastic-covered pad inserts as required by subparts 160.062 and 160.005 of this chapter are not acceptable as equipment required by this paragraph.

(c) Each vessel carrying passengers for hire and each vessel 40 feet in length or longer not carrying passengers for hire must have at least one life preserver approved under subchapter Q of a suitable size for each person on board. Kapok and fibrous glass life preservers which do not have plastic-covered pad inserts as required by subparts 160.002 and 160.005 of this chapter are not acceptable as equipment required by this paragraph.

(d) In addition to the equipment required by paragraph (b) and (c) of this section, each vessel 26 feet in length or longer must have at least one approved ring life buoy, and each uninspected passenger vessel of at least 100 gross tons must have at least three ring life buoys. Ring life buoys must be constructed per subpart 160.050 of part 160 of this chapter. The exception is a ring life buoy that was approved prior to May 9, 1979, under former subpart 160.009 of part 160 of this chapter (see 46 CFR chapter I, revised as of October 1, 1979), which may be used as long as it is in good and serviceable condition.

(e) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire may substitute an immersion suit for a life preserver, buoyant vest, or marine buoyant device required under paragraphs (b) or (c) of this section. Each immersion suit carried in accordance with this paragraph must be of a type approved under subpart 160.171 of this chapter.

(f) On each vessel, regardless of length and regardless of whether carrying passengers for hire, an approved commercial hybrid PFD may be substituted for a life preserver, buoyant vest, or marine buoyant device required under paragraphs (b) or (c) of this section if it is—

(1) Used in accordance with the conditions marked on the PFD and in the owner's manual;

(2) Labeled for use on commercial vessels; and

(3) In the case of a Type V commercial hybrid PFD, worn when the vessel is underway and the intended wearer is not within an enclosed space.

[CGD 72-172R, 38 FR 8117, Mar. 28, 1973, as amended by CGD 77-081, 47 FR 10558, Mar. 11, 1982; CGD 82-075a, 49 FR 4483, Feb. 7, 1984; CGD 78-174A, 51 FR 4350, Feb. 4, 1986; CGD 78-174, 60 FR 2485, Jan. 9, 1995; CGD 97-057, 62 FR 51042, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-1999-5040, 67 FR 34775, May 15, 2002]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: By USCG-2012-0919, 79 FR 53630, Sept. 10, 2014, § 25.25-5 was revised, effective Oct. 10, 2014. For the convenience of the user, the revised text is set forth as follows:

§ 25.25-5 Life preservers and other lifesaving equipment required.

(a) No person may operate a vessel to which this subpart applies unless it meets the requirements of this subpart.

(b) (1) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire and less than 40 feet in length must have on board at least one wearable personal flotation device (PFD) approved under subchapter Q of this chapter, and of a suitable size for each person on board.

(2) Each vessel carrying passengers for hire, and each vessel not carrying passengers for hire and 40 feet in length or longer, must have at least one PFD approved under approval series 160.055, 160.155, or 160.176, and of a suitable size for each person on board.

(3) In addition to the equipment required by paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section, each vessel 26 feet in length or longer, except for a barge to which this subpart applies, must have at least one approved lifebuoy, and each uninspected passenger vessel of at least 100 gross tons must have at least three

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approved lifebuoys. Lifebuoys must be approved under approval series 160.050 or 160.150, except that a lifebuoy approved under former 46 CFR 160.009 prior to May 9, 1979 (see 46 CFR chapter I, revised as of October 1, 1979), may be used as long as it is in good and serviceable condition.

(c)(1) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire may substitute an immersion suit approved under 46 CFR 160.171 for a wearable PFD required under paragraphs (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section.

(2) On each vessel, regardless of length and regardless of whether carrying passengers for hire, an approved commercial hybrid PFD approved under approval series 160.077, may be substituted for a PFD approved under approval series 160.055, 160.155, or 160.176, if it is—

(i) Used in accordance with the conditions marked on the PFD and in the owner's manual; and

(ii) Labeled for use on commercial vessels.

§ 25.25-7 Marking.

The lifesaving equipment required by this subpart must be legibly marked as specified in subchapter Q of this chapter.

§ 25.25-9 Storage.

(a) The lifesaving equipment designed to be worn required in § 25.25-5 (b), (c) and (e) must be readily accessible.

(b) Lifesaving equipment designed to be thrown required in § 25.25-5(d) must be immediately available.

[CGD 72-172R, 38 FR 8117, Mar. 28, 1973, as amended by CGD 82-075a, 49 FR 4483, Feb. 7, 1984]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: By USCG-2012-0919, 79 FR 53631, Sept. 10, 2014, § 25.25-9 was amended as follows, effective Oct. 10, 2014.

a. In paragraph (a), remove the text “§ 25.25-5 (b), (c) and (e)” and add, in its place, the text “§ 25.25-5(b) and (c)”;

b. In paragraph (b), remove the text “§ 25.25-5(d)” and add, in its place, the text “§ 25.25-5(b)”;

c. Add a paragraph (c).

For the convenience of the user, the added and revised text is set forth as follows:

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(c) For a barge to which this subpart applies, the wearable lifesaving equipment specified in § 25.25-5 need not be stored on board the barge if the barge's operator stores it elsewhere, and ensures that each individual dons the equipment or a work vest ap-

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proved under 46 CFR 160.053 before boarding the barge and keeps it on for as long as the individual remains on board and at risk of falling overboard.

§ 25.25-11 Condition.

The lifesaving equipment required by this subpart must be in serviceable condition.

§ 25.25-13 Personal flotation device lights.

(a) This section applies to vessels described in § 25.25-1 that engage in ocean, coastwise, or Great Lakes voyages.

(b) Each immersion suit carried in accordance with § 25.25-5(e), each life preserver, each marine buoyant device intended to be worn, and each buoyant vest must have a personal flotation device light that is approved under subpart 161.012 of this chapter.

(c) Each personal flotation device light required by this section must be securely attached to the front shoulder area of the immersion suit, life preserver, or other personal flotation device.

(d) If a personal flotation device light has a non-replaceable power source, the light must be replaced on or before the expiration date of the power source. If the light has a replaceable power source, the power source must be replaced on or before its expiration date and the light must be replaced when it is no longer serviceable.

[44 FR 38783, July 2, 1979, as amended by CGD 82-075a, 49 FR 4483, Feb. 7, 1984; CGD 97-057, 62 FR 51042, Sept. 30, 1997]

§ 25.25-15 Retroreflective material for personal flotation devices.

(a) Each life preserver, each marine buoyant device intended to be worn, and each buoyant vest carried on a vessel must have Type I retroreflective material that is approved under subpart 164.018 of this chapter.

(b) Each item required to have retroreflective material must have at least 200 sq. cm (31 sq. in.) of material attached to its front side, at least 200 sq. cm of material on its back side, and, if the item is reversible, at least 200 sq. cm of material on each of its reversible sides. The material attached